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E-FILED

Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

RE: MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS; PETITION FOR EXEMPTION  
FROM DEVELOPING COMPANY-SPECIFIC COST-BASED SWITCHED  
ACCESS RATES, FOR APPROVAL OF ITS SWITCHED ACCESS TARIFF  
AND FOR OTHER RELIEF  
Our file: 0053

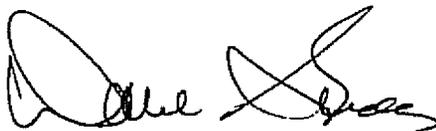
Dear Patty:

Enclosed is a petition dealing with Midcontinent's company-specific cost-based switched access rates, its switched access tariff and mirroring switched access rates. Please file the enclosure. Also enclosed is a proposed tariff.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my office.

Yours truly,

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

BY: 

DAG:mw

Enclosure

cc/enc: Mary Lohnes  
Nancy Vogel

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION )  
OF MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS )  
FOR APPROVAL OF ITS INTRASTATE )  
SWITCHED ACCESS TARIFF AND FOR )       PETITION  
AN EXEMPTION FROM DEVELOPING )  
COMPANY-SPECIFIC COST-BASED )  
SWITCHED ACCESS RATES )

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:27:11 to 20:10:27:13, inclusive, Midcontinent Communications ("Midcontinent") petitions the Commission as follows:

1. Midcontinent is a facilities-based competitive provider of local and long distance services in South Dakota. Petitioner competes with the incumbent local exchange carrier, Qwest Corporation ("Qwest"), with certain rural local exchange carriers ("RLECs") and a variety of CLECs, including certain CLECs owned by RLECs.

2. The Commission has approved an exemption for Midcontinent from the requirement to develop company-specific cost-based intrastate switched access rates, starting with Docket TC00-135, and most recently in Docket TC05-185.

3. In attempting to conduct a lawful and effective cost study based upon the Commission's existing rules and Midcontinent's business and operational model, the Company has been forced to conclude that it cannot develop a satisfactory cost basis to establish company-specific costs to determine switched access rates.

4. Midcontinent does not have the internal expertise or resources necessary to determine company-specific cost-based intrastate switched access rates. It has found that even by employing the services of outside consultants it would nonetheless be unable to establish switched access rates satisfactory to either Commission staff or the Commission. Thus the additional costs

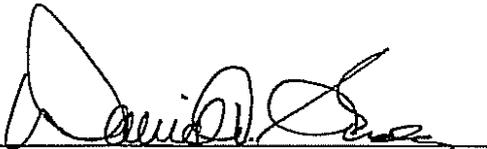
associated with developing lawful company-specific cost-based intrastate switched access rates outweigh any benefit to the consumer or customer. Midcontinent therefore seeks to mirror switched access rates employed by other CLECs similarly situated to Midcontinent in the telecommunications marketplace.

5. Filed herewith is Midcontinent's proposed switched access tariff, absent only the rate, for which it respectfully requests the Commission's approval.

WHEREFORE, Midcontinent prays for the reasons stated in this petition that the Commission continue to exempt it from developing company-specific cost-based switched access rates, that the Commission authorize it to mirror switched access rates of similarly situated CLECs doing business in the state, and that the Commission approve its switched access tariff.

Dated this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2007.

MAY, ADAM, GERDES & THOMPSON LLP

BY: 

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**SECTION 3 – SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)**

**3.9 Recurring Charges**

**A. Carrier Common Line Access Service**

Per Minute Charge:

<u>Originating</u>	<u>Terminating</u>
Pending	Pending

**B. Tandem Switched Management Services**

- |                                                                                    |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Installation Charge:                                                            | ICB     |
| 2. Port Connections:                                                               | ICB     |
| Monthly Charge:                                                                    | ICB     |
| DS1 Port Connection:                                                               | ICB     |
| DS3 Port Connection:                                                               | ICB     |
| 3. Per Minute Charge:                                                              | Pending |
| 4. Switch Management Services Expedited Trunk Code Routing Changes<br>(1-15 codes) |         |
| Nonrecurring                                                                       | ICB     |

**C. End Office Local Switching**

Per Access Minute

Pending

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ISSUED: August \_\_, 2007

EFFECTIVE: August \_\_, 2007

Tom Simmons  
Vice President  
3901 S. Louis Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107

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**SECTION 3-SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (cont'd)**

**3.9 Recurring Charges (cont'd)**

**D. 8XX Data Base Access Service Queries**

Per Query	
Basic	Pending
Vertical Feature	
POTS Translation Charge	
Per call	Pending
Call Handling & Destination Feature	
Charge, per query	Pending

**E. Special Construction**

ICB

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